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Further Obſervations on a Pamphlet, intitled, A Letter from a Member of Parliament, to his Friend in the Country, containing his Reaſons for being againſt the late Act for preventing the Retail of Spirituous Liquors.

I Am now to conſider the *Pamphleteer's* Oppoſition to the Act for laying a Duty upon the Retailers of Spirituous Liquors; his Objections againſt it, as a Remedy too ſevere for the Evil it was intended to redreſs; and his Objections to it on account of the *Civil Liſt*.

Our Author deſcribes the Method which has been taken by the *Legiſlature* for the ſuppreſſing the exceſſive Drinking of Spirits, as too violent. He treats it as a Method which will deſtroy Thouſands of Families. If this indeed ſhould be the Caſe, there is no Man, who has any Bowels of Humanity, but what muſt be moved with Compaſſion; there is no Man, who has any Regard for Society, but what muſt wiſh, that milder Means had been firſt tried, or that theſe ſevere ones may be molified; and if what *our Author* ſays ſhould be true, that the Evil complained of might have been remedied by Methods leſs harſh, I ſhall, on this Head, have no Controverſy with him. I agree, that in Politicks, as well as in ſick People, the harſheſt Remedies are always the laſt: But I cannot think the Caſe ſo deſperate as *this Pampleteer* deſcribes it; I cannot conſider this Act in the ſame Light as he does, as a *total Prohibition of all Spirituous Liquors*. On the contrary, *our Author* appears to me a little uncandid to the *Gentleman* he ſatyrizes, as well as falſe in his Fact, when he ſays, that the *ſame knowing Spirit* which would be contented with nothing but repealing the former Law, would now be contented with nothing but a *total Prohibition of the Uſe of all Spirituous Liquors in any Shape*.

THE *Gentleman* for whom this Rebuke is deſigned, it is no difficult Matter to gueſs at; but however grateful our Author may be in this, that the Act will occaſion a *total Prohibition of the Uſe of all Spituous Liquors in any Shape*, is moſt certainly not true; becauſe the Act permits Spirituous Liquors to be had in any Quantity not under two Gallons, upon the ſame Terms as formerly; and by this Means, I apprehend, they will ſtill be open to all thoſe whoſe Uſe of them, or Abuſe of them, cannot prove deſtructive to the Nation, to all but the loweſt of the People, the labouring Poor.

THE exceſſive Drinking of Spirituous Liquors which has prevailed of late Years, was complained of by all ſorts of People, as an Evil which cried aloud for Redreſs; it was a Grievance which the creditable Diſtillers condemned as well as others, and deſired to have reſtrained. When a Regulation of this Kind was moved for in the Parliament, every Gentleman there was ſenſible of the Enormity, and that it ought to be corrected; the only Debate was, in what Method the Redreſs of this Evil could be beſt obtained. This was a Propoſition long under the Conſideration of Parliament, and whether, at laſt, it had Iſſue in the beſt and happieſt Method, or no, I ſhall not preſume to determine. The *Writer* before me arraigns the Proceedings of *Parliament* on this Head, as void of *Coolneſs* and *Candour*, and makes their Iſſue, agreeable thereto, big with *Calamity* and *Deſtruction*. This is certain, that as the Evil complained of, lay in that exceſſive Conſumption of Spirituous Liquors, which has prevailed of late Years, ſo it was impoſſible, in the Nature of Things, to remedy this Abuſe, without ſuppreſſing the Conſumption in a great Degree; but that the ſuppreſſing this exceſſive Conſumption will be attended with the Ruin of Thouſands of Families, and the Deſtruction of the Diſtilling Trade, it is hoped, will prove falſe in Fact, however it may be dreaded in Apprehenſion. If I am rightly informed, the Diſtillers ſupported themſelves in a reputable Manner, and made handſome Proviſions for their Poſterity, when not a third Part of the Quantity of Spirits was conſumed as has been of late Years; and it is *our Author's* Calculation, that, under the preſent Act, it is to be expected, that the Conſumption of Spirits will be at leaſt ſufficient to produce to the Revenue 100,000 l. *per Annum*. It is ſtrange *our Author* ſhould make this Calculation as the loweſt Revenue, which, he apprehends, can be ſuppoſed to ariſe under the Act, and yet talk of *total Prohibitions, and the Deſtruction of Thouſands*.

BUT let the Event be what it will, that if a milder Method would have remedied the Evil, it was moſt eligible, I think, cannot be doubted; what that Method ſhould be, it might not have been ſo eaſy to ſettle. *Our Author* acquaints us, that an *Honourable Perſon* who was for a gradual Redreſs, who was not for knocking a Trade at Head at one Blow, juſtly expreſſed his Opinion, that the beſt Way to remedy this Grievance would be by reviving and purſuing the Deſign of the Act that had been lately repealed. This Method was, no doubt, propoſed by the *Honourable Perſon*, from a juſt and humane Concern for the Multitudes ſupported by the Diſtilling Trade, and from a natural Diſlike to all Means that had the Appearance of Harſhneſs and Severity; yet I am told by Diſtillers, that if the firſt Act had been revived, and extended to all Spirituous Liquors, without any Reduction of the Duty, if the whole five Shillings *per* Gallon had been continued, and added to the Duties on all ſorts of Spirits, it would not have occaſioned leſs Complaint among them than the preſent Act; that it would have made all their Liquors come dear to all ſorts of People, whereas they will now be only ſo to thoſe that cannot purchaſe two Gallons.

BY making the Duty ſomething leſs, this Diſadvantage indeed might have been removed; and it is in the Power of the Legiſlature at any Time to revive and qualify the firſt Act, or molify the laſt; but whatever has been, or ſhall be the Determination of the *Legiſlature* on theſe Affairs, we ſhall ſee, that the *Writer* before me has no other End in what he publiſhes on this Head, than to ſerve the *Purpoſes* of *Faction*, and to convert Diſcontent, from whatever Quarter it may ariſe, into Enmity againſt the Government.

THIS brings me to *our Author's* Objections to the Act for laying a Duty upon the Retailers of Spirituous Liquors, on account of the *Civil Liſt*: And here we ſhall diſcover the true Spirit of *this Pampleteer*; we ſhall ſee, that it was not Commiſeration for the Diſtillers, nor Concern for our Trade or our Colonies that ſet him to Work; but *Hopes* of inflaming the People againſt his *Sovereign*, by a moſt invidious Deſcription of the Conſideration that has been given to the *Civil Liſt Revenues* in this Affair; at his *Majeſty's* Support all his Arrows are levelled; and it ſeems that he had rather all Poſterity ſhould be loſt, than that any Regard to his Majeſty's Maintenance ſhould be mixed with their Preſervation.

WITH what cruel Malice, what baſe Miſrepreſentation, has he endeavoured to work upon the Minds of the People, and to edge their Reſentments againſt the Crown, as if nothing had been conſulted but the Advancement of the Civil Liſt Revenues!

LET us examine how this Affair ſtands, and with what Juſtice the Clamour about the Civil Liſts is raiſed. As the publick Funds were likely to ſuſtain a Loſs by the Act for ſuppreſſing the drinking of Spirituous Liquors, it was the *Office* and the *Duty* of the *Honourable Perſon*, to whom the Care of the Revenue is committed, to recommend it to the Conſideration of the *Parliament* how ſuch Loſs might be replac'd, and provided for by other Means; this was no ſooner mentioned to the Houſe, than it met with their Approbation. His *Majeſty's* Civil Liſt among the Reſt, came under their Care: and as the *Parliament* are to make up to his Majeſty the Revenue of 800,000 *l. per Annum* ſettled for his Life, whenever the Duties appointed for that Purpoſe prove deficient, and as the Taxes thus appropriated are not more than ſufficient, nor ſufficient, it became highly reaſonable that the *Civil Liſt Revenues* ariſing from the *Duties* on *Spirituous Liquors*, ſhould on this Occaſion be replaced, and ſecured to his Majeſty; what could be more equitable, what more juſt than this? The Parliament would have been obliged to have made this Deficiency good hereafter, and could any Time be more proper than the preſent?

EQUALLY juſt was it to take the Medium from the Time of his *Majeſty's Acceſſion* to the Throne to the preſent Year; and nothing can be more invidious than the *Pampleteer's* repreſenting this as paying for the Evil when it was cured; for muſt not his Majeſty's Revenue be made up? and if it does not ariſe this Way, muſt it not be had elſewhere?

THE granting *his Majeſty* 70,000 *l. per Annum* in this Manner, is therefore not increaſing the *Civil Liſt*, but continuing it as it was before: But, ſays the *Pampleteer*, the Increaſe that will ariſe to the *Civil Liſt*, from the extraordinary Conſumption of *Beer* and *Ale*, which will be occaſioned by this Act, would have made up for the Deficiency of the Duty on Spirituous Liquors; how does our *Author* know this? Is he certain there will be ſuch an extraordinary Increaſe of the Conſumption of Beer and Ale? I am told that the *Diſtillers* are preparing vaſt Quantities of Home-made Wines from Cherries, Currants, Rasberries, Elderberries, &c. and if the Draught ſhould turn this way, where could the Deficiency ariſe then? But allowing that a great Increaſe ſhould ariſe in the Conſumption of Beer and Ale, is it not better that the Advantage of this ſhould accrue to the People? And is it not moſt extraordinary that this *Enemy* to the *Civil Liſt* ſhould be againſt giving the *Crown* 70,000 *per Annum*, and yet be for its getting five Times as much, aye Twenty, according to his own Calculation? Is it not, I ſay, moſt wonderful that this *Writer* ſhould oppoſe a *Revenue's* returning to the People, of ſuch amazing Improvement, in lieu of a Grant that gives abundantly leſs? And is it not moſt wicked to hear him clamouring againſt the Miniſters for having choſen this Method; a Method which he obſerves they have choſen to recommend themſelves to the *Crown* and to the *People* alſo?

FOR if ſuch an Increaſe is likely to ariſe from the Brewery, as our *Author* prognoſticates; and if the Advantage to the Civil Liſt be ſo great as he ſpeaks of; let me ask any Man who they are that have moſt ſought the *Increaſe* of the *Civil Liſt*, thoſe who were for giving all theſe Advantages to it, or thoſe who were for giving them to the Publick?

OUR *Author* tells us, that the *Civil Liſt's* Share of Loſs from the *Gin Act* for the Year 1732, was but 2267 *l.* on Home-made Spirits, whilſt its Gain was near one half 107,477 *l.* increaſed by the Exciſe on Beer and Ale: If then the Exciſe from the Brewery ſhould hereafter increaſe in any ſuch Proportion, can there be any Compariſon betwixt granting the Crown, according to the preſent Revenues on Spirituous Liquors, and giving it theſe Advantages? is it not infinitely more for the Benefit of the People that they ſhould have them? and moſt aſtoniſhing that any Man ſhould make this a Subject of Clamour, and hope to repreſent it as injurious to the People? Is this a Bargain? is this a Purchaſe? is this buying the Preſervation of the Lives of the People? Is it any thing more than allowing his *Majeſty* what he has always been allowed? is it not providing for his Support in the ſafeſt Way, and in a Way moſt advantageous to his Subjects? Nothing therefore can be more injurious to the Honour of the Crown, than the Aſperſions which fill the Pamphlet before me, nothing more falſe, nothing further removed from the Intention of the King or his Miniſters.

I have not Room in this Paper to follow my *Author* through every little, dirty Inſinuation; I am perſuaded this Specimen will be ſufficient to convince my Readers, that the *Pampleteer* had no better Deſign than to leſſen the Affections and Duty of the People towards their Prince, by a Deſcription of the Regard paid to his *Majeſty's Support*, as I have ſhewn altogether unfair and invidious.

IF this be not ſufficient to raiſe the Indignation of the moſt ſupine; let him but conſider the glaring Inconſiſtencies which accompany our *Author's* ſeditious Attempt, and he cannot but deteſt it; when the *Pampleteer* intends to whet the Reſentments of thoſe who may ſuffer by the late Act againſt Spirituous Liquors, and turn their Diſcontent againſt the Government, we hear of nothing but *Poverty*, *Diſtreſs*, and great *want of Money*, and *terrible* and *juſt Apprehenſions* of its being ſtill greater: But when it is his Aim to inflame them, by magnifying the great Increaſe that is to ariſe to the *Civil Liſt*, then his Language is, that this Act will increaſe the Conſumption of Corn and Malt beyond all Degree of Proportion to the preſent, that it will increaſe the Conſumption of all Sorts of Goods, and conſequently Trade of every kind, by which the Revenues will advance alſo, and amongſt them the Civil Liſt. Thus whether we are to flouriſh, or whether we are to fall, we are every way to be uneaſy, and to make us ſo, is the only Point in which *modern Patriots*

over consistent; this is the governing Passion by which we may unravel all their Actions, all their Schemes, and by which we may explain all their Writings, all their artful Performances; knowing this, we may hope to steer in Safety, and be guarded against all their Artifices; and upon attending to this, depends our Welfare, and the Welfare of all our Posterity.

BRITANNUS.

Extract of a Letter from Venice of June 5. O. S.

'WE have Advice, that Thamas Kouli Kan, General of the Troops of Persia, after having hitherto performed the Functions, has, at length, taken the Title of the Sovereign of that Kingdom, and caused himself to be recognized Sophi or King, to the Prejudice of King Thamas, whose Indolence, Effeminacy, and blind Credulity reduced him to the shameful Necessity of abandoning the Throne of his Ancestors. This Prince is still confined in a Castle of Persia. Thamas Kouli-Kan's Behaviour, in order to attain to this Advancement, shews that he is a refined Politician; for 'tis said, that after he had, by closetting the great Men of the Kingdom, made sure of their Consent, he summoned them to a General Assembly at Ispahan, wherein he pretended a Desire to lay down the Post of Generalissimo, and his other Employments, in order to lead a private Life: But the Grandees of the Kingdom, with whom every thing had been pre-concerted, expressed their Gratitude for his Services, and for every thing he had done for Persia, and not only intreated him to continue to promote the Glory of the Kingdom, but also to accept the Crown and the Dignity of the Sophi; and Kouli-Kan, who signified his Consent, said, it was only owing to their Sollicitations. In what Manner soever the General proceeds, it may be said, that his great Qualities render him worthy of a Throne.'

The Baron de Schulenbourg the Danish Minister at the Court of France, having presented a Memorial to that Court, and made it a common Cause with the Ministers of the other Protestant Powers, for revoking the 4th Article of the Treaty of Ryswick, M. Chauvelin, the Keeper of the Seals, made a Declaration upon this Head, which has given very great Pleasure to the Dyet of Ratisbon. He said, 'That they must expect to find the King his Master as zealous for the Interests of his Religion as the Protestant Powers can possibly be for theirs; that consequentially it was not natural for his Majesty to employ himself in carrying on an Affair which is moreover purely within the Jurisdiction of the Empire: That all the King could do would be not to make any sort of Opposition to the Demand of the Protestant Powers; to which his Majesty would the rather be ingaged by the Consideration of that unanimous Concurrence with which the States of the Empire, particularly those of the Protestant Religion, approved of the Preliminaries of the Peace; and that as the Demand in Question, far from being contrary to the Peace of Westphalia, is relative to it in some Sort, his Majesty would have still the less Reason to oppose it.'

They write from Petersburg that Count Munich having held a Council of War at Asoph, has resolved to leave his Army some time longer in that Camp, because the Tartars have laid all the Country Waste to 30 Leagues from Precop, and in order to favour the Building of some Ships that are begun at the Mouth of the Don in the Black Sea to form a Squadron.

The Spaniards continue in Tuscany, waiting to see what what will be the Issue of the Broils with the Court of Rome. The Masters of the Ships that are to transport them, who are for most part English, and have been hired these three Months for the Service, make a great Clamour, that they have not yet touch'd any Money, and that they cannot get Leave to be gone; for which Reason some think the Spaniards only stay for the Cash.

The English Men of War at Leghorn, made several Discharges of their Cannon, for the Marriage of the Prince of Wales, and the Consul made Illuminations for three Nights successively.

Hague, June 19. *O. S.* Count Golowkin has this Day notified to the States by their President, the News of a great Victory gained by the Muscovite Army commanded by General Munich over the Tartars, who being in Number 100,000, as 'tis said, very well intrench'd, to defend the Passage into the Crimea by Precop, were entirely defeated on the 28th of May last, and the Cham had much ado to make his Escape. The States of Holland are actually sitting upon their Domestick Affairs, and the Town of Gorcum having protested against their last Resolution concerning the Waters of the Maese for the Town of Dort, great Debates amongst them have arisen thereupon. The States seem now resolved to leave their Garisons as they are till next Year.

LONDON.

Yesterday was a Meeting of the Commissioners appointed by Act of Parliament to build a Bridge from Westminster to Lambeth. The Right Hon. the Lord Sundon was in the Chair; Sir Joseph Ayloffe, Bart. was appointed Secretary to the Commission; and Nathaniel Blackerby, Esq; was put in Nomination for Treasurer. The Commissioners adjourned their next Meeting to the Twenty-third Day of next Month.

Yesterday a Dispensation passed the Great Seal, to enable the Rev. Thomas Friske Clerk, M. A. of Christ Church College in the University of Oxford, and Chaplain to the Right Hon. the Lord Abercrombie, to hold the Rectory of Shimplinthorne in the County of Suffolk and Diocese of Norwich, together with the Rectory of Great Bromley in the County of Essex and Diocese of London.

On Saturday next the Right Hon. the Earl of Dunmore, one of the Sixteen Peers of Scotland, and Col. of the Third Regiment of Foot Guards, will review the said Regiment in Hyde Park.

Yesterday the great Cricket Match, which was played on Kennington-Common, between the Gentlemen of London and those from Mitcham in Surry, was won by the former, by great Odds.

On Monday last a young Lad, an Apprentice to a Waterman, as he was stowing his Boat at Cuper's Stairs, unfortunately fell over board, and was drowned.

We hear that Colonel Creamer of the Third Regiment of Foot Guards, will succeed Major Derby lately deceased; and that Colonel Stuart will succeed Colonel Creamer; and that the rest of the Officers in the said Regiment will rise gradually.

On Monday last died at his Lodgings in Cook's-court, John Burslam of Lincolnshire, Esq; a Gentleman possessed of a plentiful Estate.

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† Yesterday Bank Stock was 148 1-half. India 175 1-half. South Sea 98 3-4ths. Old Annuity 112 to 1-8th. New ditto, 112 to 1-4th, Books shut. Three per Cent 104 1-half to 3-4ths, Books shut. Emperor's Loan 117 1-4th. Royal-Assurance 110, Books shut. London-Assurance 14 1-half. York Buildings 2. African 15. India Bonds 61. 12 s. to 14 s. Prem. Three per Cent. ditto 5 l. 5 s. Prem. South Sea Bonds 6 l. 1 s. Prem. New Bank Circulation 5 l. 5 s. Prem. Salt Tallies 4 to 6 1-half Psem. English Copper 21. 3 s. Welsh ditto, no Price. Three 1-half per Cent. Exchequer Orders 5 3-4ths per Cent. Prem. Million Bank 115.

THE Managers and Directors of the Lottery appointed by an Act passed in the last Session of Parliament, for building a Bridge cross the River Thames from the New Palace Yard in the City of Westminster, to the opposite Shore in the County of Surry, do hereby give Notice, that they have, pursuant to the Directions of the said Act, appointed the Payments of the Contributors to the said Lottery to be made into the Bank of England, in the Proportions, and at the Times following, viz. Twenty Shillings on each Ticket to be paid at the Time of subscribing, for which Purpose Books will be opened the 30th of this Instant June, and continue so to the 2d of August following, unless the Subscription be compleated before that Time; Forty Shillings more to be paid on each Ticket on or before the 10th of September next, and the remaining Forty Shillings on or before the 1st of November following.

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